



St Joseph's Primary Parent Council



Minutes of Parent Council 2 June 2024

Parent Attendees

Claire Campbell (Secretary), Jonathan Carroll (Chair), Nicola Hill (Treasurer), Lynn Johnson (Vice Treasurer), Sharon Constable, Mark Lilley, Julie Richardson

St Joseph's School Representatives: Suzanne Martin (Head Teacher), Karen Wynne (Deputy Head), Clionagh Leddy (Principal Teacher), Miss Lavery

St Joseph's Parish Representative: Rebecca Harrison (see apologies)

Opening Prayer lead by Johnny Carroll

Introductions and Apologies

Apologies: Canon Stephen, Aimee Scullion (Vice Chair), Amy Dickson (Vice Secretary) Samantha McConnell (uniform rep.), Karen Jordan (Laudato Si rep.), Angela Macklin, Rosie McCluskey, Stacey Hogg, Suzanne Kavanah (Social Secretary)

Minutes of previous meeting were circulated and approved

Proposed by Johnny Carroll Seconded by Claire Campbell

Chair's Update

Newsletter Office Bearers segments to be passed on to Aimee.

Fantasy football league was proposed to be set up for next year. Invite and corresponding code to be included in upcoming newsletter. Hope is that this will raise funds whilst also bringing parent community closer together.

Improving safety of school grounds and reducing vandalism. No movement as yet with councillors, will continue to be pursued. To reach out to Joe McCaig, ER, for an update on progress made on upgrading CCTV.

Update provided on ER Chairs meeting that was attended by Aimee Scullion.

Preloved uniform provision. I have contacted T Low at SNHS and arranged for promotion of opportunity for young people to once more support our preloved uniform scheme. Previously created slides to be resent and used by school in August to promote opportunity.

Proposing that we approve renewing Connect subscription for next academic year.

Head Teacher's Report

Staffing - 2 NQTs for next year, will be named in next couple of weeks

NQTs this year have had a successful year and hope they will have a positions next year as there is not a lot of vacancies

Miss McBride will be moving to St Clare's and Miss Lavery will leave at the end of term. So there are 2 new posts with interviews on 13th June for 2 classroom teachers. So there will be a delay of announcing new teachers and transition will be done after new teachers are appointed.

Wild week will start in 2 weeks, Mrs Martin thanks the PC for our support and Mrs Leddy for setting the timetable. A few items still to confirm but most items in place. Kerry Comfort from Williamwood and hopefully for St Ninians to lead orienteering.

P7 off to Lockerbie – cost of nearly £500 per child. Looking at prices for next year and possibly a reduction in days but not a huge saving in cost but a loss of activities if the time is reduced. Information will go out to current P6s soon,

Attainment still very high: 70% National average or above. This is mirrored by East Ren test where most children above ER average.

Leavers' disco and leavers' ceremony will be on Tuesday 25th June at 1.30 with disco at 6.30.

Parents evenings were successful; most parents want face to face but continue to offer option of calls as well.

The timing of sending work home will be reviewed as having the jotters for only 1 day meant the experience was just stressful for both teachers and parents. Feedback wasn't particularly positive so will consider different format to allow parents to view work.

School improvement plan will be included in newsletter which is due tomorrow. Areas as previously discussed at last meeting. No suggestions were received from parents of areas that they felt had been overlooked.

Budget has not been announced so can't determine what savings are required.

Authority questionnaire was sent out and 118 responses from school, including staff and pupils. Staff and children were positive. Most parents were very positive and there were only a few negative comments. Mrs Martin will forward to the staff the lovely comments which recognise the effort of above and beyond.

Good Morning Britain have asked us to do a piece on Andy Robertson as his primary school on the first day of the Euros. Mrs Martin will check with the authority but there will be a bit of media attention for both St Josephs and St Ninians.

Due to the upcoming election, Mrs Martin can't discuss any Scottish Government issues.

Diocesan Church Representative Report

Parent forum in May cancelled due to low numbers, next forum is in September

SCES sent a questionnaire; Johnny will make a response on behalf of the Parent Council.

Treasurer's Update

Since the last meeting on 29th April, we have received an Easy Fundraising payment of £571 and £157 through parent & preloved uniform donations.

We have taken a further £805 in Summer Fayre ticket sales and stall pitch payments. The current balance stands at £7,929.

Opening balance as at 29th April 2024	£6,396
Easy Fund Raising	£571
Parent donations	£50
Preloved Uniform Donations	£107
PC Expenses	
Summer Fayre Ticket Sales	£805
Revised balance as at 29th April 2024	£7,929

Do we need to put funds aside for Anniversary celebrations - merchandising etc?

Mrs Martin - no one out to look at trim trail etc as yet. She will follow up in the next week. Agreed to hold £1000 in maintenance fund.

Social Secretary's Update

Summer Fayre - 8th June - we have many activities in place for the Fayre this coming Saturday and hope to have a successful day. We expect the total cost of everything required for the fayre to be around £1700, ticket sales are currently at £1475 and stallholders have paid £180. We are going to do a push on ticket sales this week so that hopefully we aren't starting on a deficit and that everything made on Saturday is fundraising. We will fundraise on the day from the bar, tombola, selling punch balloons, swirl lollipops, crazy hairspray, guess the teddys name & number of sweets in the jar. There are a number of all inclusive activities included in the wrist band cost for kids such as the science centre on tour, inflatables, fire engine, campus cop, dance practice & arts and crafts.

We will be taking cash on the day from families who haven't purchased a ticket.

Wild week - The parent council are providing inflatables & parent help for Inflatables Day on Thursday 20th June, this has been booked through Jump 4 Fun which the PC will pay at a cost of £672.58

P7 Disco - Tuesday 25th June

We have booked the Church hall, the Busby hotel kindly have said we can borrow their red carpet, Newlands Bakery have kindly offered to make the cupcakes at only 60p per cake, we are just trying to negotiate a price with a DJ.

UNIFORM REP UPDATE

The parent Laudato Si group have continued to support the school through running Minnie Vinnies once a month for P6/7s during lunch break.

This term we have focussed on supporting our local community through prayer and acts of kindness.

April Session

Bonnyton Care home and it's residents were identified as a local group the children would like to support. Through discussion, the children were able to empathize with residents (loneliness, not being able to go out etc). We used the session to make cards and write messages that would cheer up residents.

May Session

Along with Miss Lavery and a few parent volunteers, we took the children to visit the care home. The children prepared a few songs and sang them to the residents. They then distributed their cards and spent time talking to the residents. They heard many stories of residents younger days and work which is different to work today. The residents loved how engaging the children were and asked for a few more songs and another visit soon.

In addition the parent Laudato Si faith group have assisted in ground clean up days and maintaining the prayer garden. We have also supported and run the various Preloved Uniform events

Laudato Si/Faith Group

60th Anniversary Events

A proposal was put forward for creating a limited time sub-committee. This will breakdown to 3 main areas - Faith Group, Social Group and curriculum activities.

PC to agree how to take this forward - regular meetings of sub-committee and then other groups break off for their individual disciplines. A sub-committee may attract other parents to participate. Timeline is short as we want to launch celebrations in March, in line with anniversary of opening of the school. Starting with a mass on Wednesday 19th March 2025 in St Joseph's church on St Joseph's day. Could also have a social event that could double as a fundraiser.

Johnny Carroll proposed a sub-committee and Claire Campbell seconded.

Mark Lilley was proposed as leader of the sub-committee and elected without objection.

There are no objections to proposed date for mass at 7pm.

We have approached Hampden, Busby hotel and Redhurst for hosting some sort of ball - options for theme to be discussed. Busby and Redhurst don't take non-bookings for less than 3 months or 9 months respectively prior to the events.

Make up of sub-committee to be determined. Invitation to join the subcommittee be extended via the WhatsApp groups

AOCB

Johnny proposed that we renew our Connect membership. Seconded by Claire Campbell. Aimee will forward invoice to Nicola to pay.

Arrangements for next year - AGM in person was agreed - similar format to this year with social element at the end.

Other meetings to be online. The number of meetings to be reviewed for next year. Would a Tuesday be a better day than a Monday? Will put on the chat to get a wider consensus.

Proposed merging April and June meetings into 1 meeting in mid-May. This would avoid clash with Easter holiday in April and the busy time in June.

Proposed by Johnny and seconded by Sharon Constable

Football tournament - every other school boys and girls had school logo on strip but St Joseph boys had logo but girls didn't. Can we fund strips for the girls team for all teams.

Agreed we would seek a sponsor in the first instance but would look for PC to fund these strips for the girls if required.

Mrs Martin will ask for sponsors in the newsletter and PC can put in our newsletter too. Need the new strips for Bishop Tartalia tournament in September.